

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /067 R

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EUR - MR. HARTMAN

AF:DBEASUM

L/UNA:MMATHESON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 231150

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, PFOR, SS, MO, SP

SUBJECT: US POSTURE TOWARD SPANISH SAHARA

REF: A) USUN 3589; B) STATE 217954

1. US POLICY WITH REGARD TO SPANISH SAHARA IS TO ENCOURAGE PARTIES CONCERNED TO RESOLVE THEIR DIFFERENCES AMICABLY. THE US WISHES TO KEEP UNIMPAIRED ITS FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH MOROCCO AND SPAIN, AND HENCE DOES NOT WISH TO TAKE POSITION OFFENSIVE TO EITHER. WE ARE PREPARED TO BACK MEANS OF PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF SPANISH SAHARA DISPUTE WHICH PARTIES PRINCIPALLY INVOLVED AGREE UPON. THIS INCLUDES TAKING ISSUE TO ICJ, AS SUGGESTED BY MOROCCO AND
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SUPPORTED BY MAURITANIA AND ALGERIA, OR HOLDING REFEREN-

DUM, AS PREFERRED BY SPAIN. SPAIN HAS INDICATED (MADRID 6248) THAT IT COULD NOT AGREE TO SUBMITTING DISPUTE TO ICJ, BUT WOULD ACCEPT GA REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION. ACCORDINGLY, WE DO NOT WISH TO ENDORSE OR OPPOSE PROPOSAL AT THIS TIME.

2. THE USG SUPPORTS THE USE, IN APPROPRIATE CASES, OF THE ICJ FOR THE RESOLUTION OF LEGAL DISPUTES BETWEEN STATES AND WOULD CERTAINLY SUPPORT AN AGREEMENT BY THE PARTIES INVOLVED TO COMMIT QUESTION OF SPANISH SAHARA TO ICJ AND COMPLY WITH COURT'S DECISION. WHILE GA REQUEST TO ICJ TO DELIVER ADVISORY OPINION ON SPANISH SAHARA UNDER CHARTER ARTICLE 96 WOULD NOT BE BINDING AND PROBABLY WOULD NOT BY

ITSELF RESULT IN SOLUTION, IT WOULD PROVIDE COOLING OFF PERIOD DURING WHICH OTHER SOLUTIONS COULD BE PURSUED.

3. WHEN APPROACHED ON QUESTION OF SPANISH SAHARA BY REPRESENTATIVES OF MOROCCO OR ITS ADHERENTS OR BY REPRESENTATIVES OF SPAIN, ADDRESSEES SHOULD CONTINUE TO STATE THAT US DESIRES PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF ISSUE. WE ENCOURAGE PARTIES INVOLVED TO REMAIN IN CONTACT WITH EACH OTHER AND TO COME TO AGREEMENT ON HOW TO RESOLVE DISPUTE. EXCEPT AS STATED ABOVE, WE DO NOT INTEND TO TAKE POSITION ON QUESTION OF HOW SPANISH SAHARA'S FUTURE IS TO BE DETERMINED. INGERSOLL

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